

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/881,673

Examiner

Mike Fatahiyar

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Art Unit

2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment letter filed 4/12/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 11-18, 21-23, 25, 26 and 28-31.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 February 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 5/18/05
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment ✓
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


XIAO WU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mrs. Joanna Mason on 5/18/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for inputting and displaying data for a refrigerator, comprising:
 - a display unit provided on a surface of the refrigerator;
 - a touchscreen provided on an outer surface of the display unit and configured to receive information on items stored in the refrigerator in the form of user generated image data;
 - a memory device provided within the display unit and configured to store the image data on the items stored in the refrigerator input through the touchscreen, wherein the memory device comprises a plurality of storage areas corresponding to a respective plurality of storage chambers in the refrigerator; and
 - a controller provided within the display unit and configured to control the touchscreen and the memory device so as to display the image data on the items stored in

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the refrigerator on the touchscreen, and to store the image data on the items stored in the refrigerator into the memory device.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for inputting and displaying information on a product with a display unit mounted thereon, comprising:

displaying a main menu comprising a plurality of functions on a touchscreen of the display unit, wherein the plurality of functions comprises at least ~~the~~ a schedule management function, a perishable item management function configured to monitor a status of perishable items stored in a product on which the display unit is mounted, and a product management function;

allowing for selection of a function from the plurality of functions;

when a ~~a~~ the schedule management function is selected, displaying a calendar which corresponds to a relevant month on the touchscreen;

when a specific date of the displayed calendar is selected, providing an input screen configured to receive image data written or drawn thereon by a user and representing information related to the specific date;

receiving the image data representing information related to the specific date through the input screen;

storing the image data in a memory device provided within the display unit, wherein the memory device comprises a plurality of storage areas corresponding to a respective plurality of dates associated with the schedule management function; and

displaying the stored image data on a first display screen when a present date is consistent with the specific date.

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for inputting and displaying data on a product, comprising:

a display unit mounted on the product and configured to allow for input of image data generated by a user; ~~wherein the image data comprises image data written by a user which represents information on items stored within the product;~~

a touchscreen provided on an outer surface of the display unit;

a memory device provided within the display unit and configured to receive and to store the image data, wherein the memory device comprises a plurality of storage areas corresponding to a respective plurality of storage areas of the product; and

a controller provided within the display unit and configured to control the memory device and the touchscreen so as to store the image information in the memory device, and to display the image information on the touchscreen.

31. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the image data comprises image data written by a user which represents information on items stored within the product.


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2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Fatahiyar whose telephone number is (571)272-7688.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard, can be reached on 571-272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


M. Fatahiyar

May 20, 2005


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PRIMARY EXAMINER